

WEIGHTY AND WISE.

The Colorado Correspondent Goes
After Matters of Moment
With Vim and Vinegar.

To the Editor of the Optic.

Denver, Colorado April 2nd, 1900.

Our country is safe at last! Sagasta and his cabinet will tremble when they read this item in THE OPTIC, and the boy King of Spain will trade off his crown for a stick of chewing gum! A Pueblo preacher, who poses as a patriot and warrior, has offered his services to Governor Adams as a regimental chaplain, if war should show her wrinkled front. It requires considerable nerve for a man to offer to go to war in such a reckless way, by filling a position which puts him among the non-combatant followers of the army, and a leather medal should be promptly given him, by both the State and National Governments. What this country wants if there is war, is men who will fight, and fight like —. A praying chaplain in actual war, is about as useful and necessary as the old style flint lock would be on a modern breech loading rifle. However, there is no objection to preachers going to war, if they will go as patriots, with rifles in their hands, instead of prayer books.

The editor of the Lake City Times, of this state, wears a very level head. Just read the way he sizes up the colossal fraud, Mark Hanna; he says: "This man—Hanna—holds an office next to the highest within the gift of the people, but if every drop of patriotic blood in his veins would bring one million of dollars, if cut out and sold, he could not buy a nightshirt for a mosquito, considering a whole clothing emporium to be worth 25 cents." That editor, if he were to sit up nights and try, could be somewhat sarcastic in his way of putting things, when his far happened to be rubbed the wrong way.

The Meeker Pickling and Canning company will begin the erection of their new building on which \$10,000 is to be expended. Its packing capacity will be sufficient to use all of the tomatoes that are grown in the vicinity of Pueblo, as well as the 80 acres of tomatoes the company will plant the coming summer. This new enterprise means work for a number of men; and it also proves that Pueblo is steadily forging its way to the front as a manufacturing and commercial metropolis.

Al Boyden, twice convicted of raping a ten year old girl, has had his motion for a third trial overruled, and he was given the maximum penalty, which is twenty years in the pen. In his case the sentence should have been death. Such human devils can be put to better use fertilizing the soil by planting them under ground instead of seeding them to the pen, where they can in a few years regain their freedom, through the friendly offices of the pardon board and a soft headed Governor.

Dr. J. J. Willard died suddenly in his office on Wednesday. An autopsy was performed, which proved that the doctor's sudden death was due to the bursting of a blood vessel in the brain. Dr. Willard was a prominent Mason and Knight Templar and will be buried according to the rites of this order.

The G. A. R. of this city mounted the two cannon, donated by the government, in the City Cemetery, on Wednesday morning. No ceremonies were observed, but appropriate ceremonies will be held on Memorial day. The cannon as now mounted will prove quite an ornament to the Cemetery.

Sexton McKinley is busily engaged

these days, under the direction of Ross Hanna, in digging a grave for the Republican party. It will be wide, and so deep, that when he has put the party into the hole, even the loudest blast from Gabriel's horn will fail to resurrect the remains.

The rail mill at the Bessemer steel works, which has been undergoing repairs, and receiving additions of the latest and most approved machinery, and appliances for making steel rails, will begin work on the \$1,000,000 order for steel rails, angle bars, bolts, spikes, etc., given it by the Santa Fe railway, some months ago. The pay roll for last month of these works amounted to \$65,000.

"The Superintendents and Principals Round Table," an organization composed of the leading teachers of Colorado, met in this city during the past week. About seventy-five teachers were present. Some interesting, and practical talks on educational lines were given, and at night a fine banquet was spread for the pedagogues, at which there was a "feast of reason." Indeed, it was very nice to listen to these gentlemen explaining their methods of educating the rising generation, some of which latter no doubt a cruel fate will eventually consign to the United States Senate or Congress. Their methods are certainly an improvement on the methods in vogue forty years ago, when the writer was a crackled face kid seeking for knowledge. Our Celtic teacher had but one method, and it was impartially applied in all cases. When the child failed in the task given it, the lacking knowledge was promptly hammered into the child's system with a good hardwood ruler. That is why we grew up learned and smart, and it was by an almost superhuman effort, and an inherited modesty that we avoided the fame and greatness in latter life, for which our early training had fitted us.

The war fever is still rampant in Pueblo. A number of men have already enlisted in the new military organization which is to be known as the "National Volunteer Reserve," but the age limit, which is forty five years, bars out the old veterans of the Civil War, though many are still able to, and will follow "Old Glory" to the field of battle when actual war is on.

Two companies of infantry, that in case of war, will be assigned to Col. H. B. McCoy's 2nd regiment of state militia, will be organized in this city. Enlistments for these companies will be made at once and there will be no trouble to secure the requisite number of men; at least one would think so to listen to the war-like talks going on these days among our young men.

Prof. Francis Walker, of the Colorado College delivered a lecture on "Trusts," last Friday night. He handled his subject in a very able manner, and in closing hinted that the gentlemen who are so industriously forming trusts and managing immense properties located in different cities, form one central office, are, though not intentionally, demonstrating the feasibility of the claims of Socialism that co-operation and the ownership by the government of all of our good industries, is the only true solution of the vexed problem, how to make the millions of idle and starving poor, a prosperous and happy people and ours the greatest and most progressive nation on earth.

JOHN J. BIPPUS.

The farm is a home—not a place to be lived at today and moved from tomorrow, but a home to be improved and beautified—a home where orchards are to be planted, where vines are to be grown, where substantial things are to be constructed, where children are to be born and fathers are to die.

If a farmer wants to be President, he can surely come to the office; and to rule over 40 or 400 acres occupied by wheat, corn, potatoes or beans, is to be master where compensations are many and cares fewest.

TERRITORIAL NEWS.

BOSWELL.

Sydney Prager's infant son has been quite ill for some time with bronchitis, but is now improving.

Joe T. Taylor, canal and ditch superintendent of the P. I. & I. Co., spent several days here from Eddy.

A. T. Gunter, the Lower Pecos sheepman has been attending court.

Capt. S. A. Murray, who always registers from Louisville, Ky., was at the Central hotel.

J. P. White, T. J. White and Geo. M. Smith came in from the L. F. D. company's ranch at Four Lakes.

W. G. Hamilton, I. S. Osborne and Samuel Atkinson have returned to Eddy.

Ira P. Wetmore is making excellent progress in writing up his set of abstracts of title to lands and town lots in this county.

S. S. Mathers, special land inspector of the General Land Office, has returned from his trip to Fort Stanton.

Cook and Douglass have sold their 25-foot lot on the south side of East Second street to W. R. Cummins; consideration, \$225.

U. S. Bateman, the lawyer, came up from Eddy to look after the interests of some of his clients in the district court.

J. J. Jaffa has had a handsome sign put up in front of the stairway into the Gaullier block.

W. S. Prager went to El Paso to visit his family who are there visiting Mrs. Prager's parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Mendenhall.

C. B. Willingham is having a large reservoir built near his trans-Pecos well in Buffalo Valley. When finished the water will cover three acres and average seven feet deep.

D. A. Starkweather went down to Eddy on business. George L. Fletcher and George Gordon kept things going at the depot during his absence.

John Caveness was arraigned before Judge Lea, on the charge of cattle stealing, and bound over to await the action of the grand jury in the sum of \$800.

Mrs. G. A. Richardson and son, Donovan, came up from Greenfield, visiting her sister, Mrs. A. H. Rockefeller.

Dr. J. W. Kinsinger moved into his new house on West Second street.

James W. Grace, a contractor from the City of Mexico, has been here this week buying horses for the Mexican government.

M. E. Richardson, president of El Capitan Land and Cattle company, came in from Sterling, Kansas, to attend to business before the District Court, but found it unnecessary to remain and left next morning for Amarillo to receive a bunch of Block cattle there.

SANTA FE.

Judge McFie has returned from Las Cruces, where he was a witness in a case in the District court.

Charles Gabaldon, merchant at Pecos and ex-collector of San Miguel county, is here on business.

Alex. Gusdorf, who had been in the city several days on mining and other business, returned to his home at Taos.

Hon. F. A. Reynolds returned from Albuquerque and left for Denver, to look after some mining business.

Hon. Juan Santistevan, a leading citizen, banker and merchant of Taos county, who has many friends in this city, is a guest at the Exchange.

Mrs. M. A. Otero, mother of the Governor, Mrs. M. A. Otero, Miss Mary La Rue and Master Miguel Otero, left for Denver over the D. & R. G.

Hon. Placido Sandoval left for San Miguel county on official business, and on his return he will start for the counties of Taos, Rio Arriba and San Juan.

CUBAN INDEPENDENCE.

The Cuban crisis naturally demands more space in the editorial department of the *American Monthly Review of Reviews* than any other single topic. The whole matter is reviewed in the light of the latest and most authentic information received up to the time of going to press. The *Review* is convinced that the country desires and will demand intervention in Cuba, that the real question at issue is the relief of Cuba, not the settlement of the "Maine" incident, and that Spain's final withdrawal from the western hemisphere will be the only satisfactory termination of the present trouble.

As a sample of the *Review's* words and sentiments, we quote:

It is for the conscience and the firm will of the American people to say whether or not they will interfere in Cuba. Spain has forfeited all right of sovereignty in Cuba, a hundred thousand times. We have every pretext and every justification to interfere if we choose to do so. On the other hand, we have no reason for the slightest grudge against Spain, and no right to wish anything else for Spain except a happy and prosperous future on her own side of the ocean. She is unfit for colonial responsibility, and her further presence in Cuba is as objectionable as Turkey's presence in Crete.

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